



PARK PURPOSE

VISION

Chimney Rock State Park will be a destination that enhances the stewardship and enjoyment of the state's natural and cultural resources; a place that provides a range of nature-based recreation experiences consistent with the ecological character and scenic beauty of Hickory Nut Gorge; and a place that supports interpretive programs that educate visitors about the park's unique flora and fauna, distinct geology, sensitive and endangered species, and land conservation and stewardship practices.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

GOAL: *Develop a conservation and resource management program that prioritizes sensitive natural heritage areas and outlines a comprehensive land conservation strategy for existing and future parkland.*

OBJECTIVES:

1. Establish a phasing plan for future park use that will guide future park development programs.
2. Identify natural communities within the park, and determine best management methods for protection.
3. Abandon all unsustainable roads and trails and take appropriate measures to prevent further resource degradation.
4. Protect and monitor designated species within the park. Continue mapping of rare species using global positioning systems (GPS) technology.
5. Establish a program to map, prioritize, and treat invasive species throughout the park. Collaborate with private land owners where feasible.





GOAL: *Provide a variety of high quality, sustainable, natural resource-based outdoor recreation opportunities to meet the diverse needs of park visitors.*

OBJECTIVES:

1. Provide a park trail network among natural resources and features that provides a cross section of hiking experiences.
2. Develop improved facilities for picnicking within park core for groups and families.
3. Identify opportunities for camping experiences within the park.
4. Manage rock climbing in appropriate areas.
5. Explore the feasibility of providing equestrian and mountain biking trail opportunities where appropriate.





GOAL: *Expand interpretive opportunities through the establishment of Chimney Rock State Park educational programs and the development of new use areas and facilities.*

OBJECTIVES:

1. Provide opportunities for learning about park natural and cultural resources through static interpretive displays, park contact stations, educational materials, on- and off-site interpretive programs, and guided tours where .
2. Continue to develop and initiate self-guided interpretive trails.



GOAL: *Centralize park facilities to improve access and improve operational efficiency between park facilities, day use areas, and management.*

OBJECTIVES:

1. Provide universally accessible public facilities.
2. Concentrate limited development footprint of visitor's center and other park offices.
3. Limit day use facilities outside of park core for increased operational efficiency.



Hickory Nut Falls



GOAL: *Explore the feasibility of establishing a network of regional trails that connects park and other public areas within the Hickory Nut Gorge, thereby strengthening the local economy and enhancing community amenities.*

OBJECTIVES:

1. Collaborate on a trails network that links Chimney Rock State Park throughout Hickory Nut Gorge.
2. Connect visitors to the park by providing public trail connections to park facilities and day use areas, the Town of Lake Lure, and Chimney Rock Village.



- 1 Lake Lure Town Greenway
 2 Hikers taking in the view of Hickory Nut Gorge
 3 Chimney Rock Village